

WIGGINS MORE CASH

GROWING WORK OF DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTES CALL FOR MORE MONEY.

\$300,000 SAID TO BE NEEDED

Proposition to Revise Tax Assessments and Make Luxuries Pay Heavier License—Express Companies and Insurance to Be Equalized.

RICHMOND, VA.—Special.—According to the report of the Senate Finance Committee, which met here just before the Legislature convened, it will be absolutely necessary—however great the need of economy—for the General Assembly to make appropriations that will require increased outlays of the public funds to the extent of \$275,000 or \$300,000.

This money, says the report, is the very minimum required, and means, somehow, must be found to meet it. Here is the full text of the report.

The Committee of Finance of the Senate, acting in pursuance of Senate resolution of March 7, 1908, assembled at the Capitol on December 13, 1908, and took up the work contemplated in said resolution. Adjournment was taken on December 22 until January 1, when work was resumed. Statements of receipts of the State from its various sources of revenue and the disbursements were furnished in detail by the financial officers of the State.

Information as to the needs of the departments of government and of the institutions receiving aid from the State was obtained from the heads of the departments and of the institutions and furnished by their respective heads. These statements are on file with the committee for its use and those of members of the General Assembly.

The receipts from banks and incomes were also disappointing.

Shouldn't Out Salaries.

The committee recognizes its inability to comply with the terms of the resolution requiring it "to prepare the appropriation bill proper without increasing the salaries of any officers or employees of the State."

With the present high cost of living, materially to decrease the appropriations to any of these departments or institutions, or to reduce the salaries of any officers or employees who are not protected by constitutional provisions, would seriously cripple and embarrass many of the State departments and institutions.

The salaries of officers and employees of the government, including those of judges, is only \$288,480, of which sum \$200,000 is paid to judges in counties and cities out of their local levies to pay their part of the judges' salaries.

The committee does not believe it is either the wish or to the interest of the people of Virginia to check the splendid progress the State is making along the lines of educational, moral and social development, and until their representatives refuse to provide the necessary revenue, it hesitates to place a demand on the taxpayers to any of the many worthy causes.

The General Assembly of 1908 made appropriations for 1909 from sources to many of our institutions and established new institutions and departments, making forward movements along many lines.

The largely increased appropriations made by the General Assembly of 1906 to the public free schools and high schools are still further increased by the sum of \$280,000 in the two years just ending.

Some Big Figures.

Appropriations to public roads were increased \$270,000 in the year ending Health Department was given an increase of \$70,000 and reorganized to do most efficient work. The policy of appropriating to the State the sinking fund, and thereby leaving no doubt as to the intentions of the State to carry out every provision of the settlement of the Compton case, was still further emphasized in 1906, when appropriations of \$102,000 in these years. Increases of \$79,476.47 were made in the year ending 1906, and \$102,000 in the year ending 1907.

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